



Congresswoman Kaptur joined Ohio Department of Transportation Director Jolene Molitoris for the kickoff of the state's 2010 construction season, which features more than \$170 million in an eight-county region of Northwest Ohio that includes Lucas and Ottawa counties in the Ninth Congressional District.

"The federal stimulus dollars from the Recovery Act are a key component of ODOT's ambitious program in our region," said Congresswoman Kaptur. "I am so pleased that the state is such a strong partner in our efforts to create jobs by rebuilding the local infrastructure and establishing a true multi-modal capacity-highways, air, rail and, of course, water."

The centerpiece of the program is a \$6.8 million project, funded by the Recovery Act that Congress passed in February 2009, for two new mobile cranes at the Toledo port. The new cranes will double the productivity of the current, 1940s-era cranes and will be able to move up to 35 containers per hour.

The new cranes are expected to arrive in May.

The 2010 program also includes an \$89.5 million project to improve safety and reduce congestion at the I-75/I-475 interchange in central Toledo. The project will widen I-475 to three lanes in each direction. Scheduled to begin this summer, the project is scheduled to be completed in 2013.

The "Fort to Port" project on U.S. Route 24 will involve construction of a four-lane, divided highway in Lucas and Henry counties this year. Due to open in the summer of 2012, the final three phases of the project will complete a vital link from the port of Toledo to Fort Wayne, Indiana.

An \$8.9 million project will widen Wheeling Street, including the bridge over I-280, in Lucas County. Scheduled completion date is December 2011.

And, the DiSalle Bridge over I-75 in Lucas County will be redecked at a cost of \$10.2 million.

This is also a Recovery Act-funded project.

The ODOT program also includes three projects in Ottawa County, including the repair of four bridges on State Routes 19 and 590 at a cost of \$842,000; replacement of a culvert on State Route 53, just north of the Sandusky-Ottawa County line, at a cost of \$245,000; and repair on the Port Clinton Lift Bridge (\$161,000), which will be closed to masthead navigation through April.